

Using the Music Standards in the Classroom
Master Teacher Demonstration by Sarah Amundson

Standards – 1st Grade

1. The student will develop the voice and body as instruments of musical expression.
 2. The student will play instruments as a means of musical expression.
 3. The student will create music through improvising, arranging, and composing.
 4. The student will listen to, analyze and describe music.
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1. Greet class using singing voice. Ask ‘how are you?’, ‘Did you do your homework’, ‘how was lunch’, etc. (S1, S3)
 2. Use sliding techniques to have the children reach into their head voice. Then have them match your chosen pitch. (S1, S3)
 3. Sing a few songs sung in the past. (S1)
 4. Choose one of the songs and tap the beat. Then tap the rhythm. Have some solos showing beat and rhythm tapping. (Beat is always steady, rhythm matches words) (S2)
 5. Pass out instruments. I use rules such as if they play the instrument when they are not supposed to, it will be taken away. Give signals for starting and stopping. (S2)
 6. Sing a few songs while showing the beat and rhythm with the instrument. A few students should demonstrate with solos. If there is not enough of the same instrument, switch and do it again. Children should have as much exposure to beat and rhythm as they can. (S4)
 7. Listen to Haydn: Surprise Symphony 04, 2nd movement “Andante”. Ask the students to listen carefully to see if they can find the beat and tap along with it. (S4)
 8. The students should describe the beat, what it sounded like, if it was there all the time, etc. (S1, S4)
 9. Listen to a small excerpt again and tap the beat with it. Listen to a little more and tap the rhythm. Encourage the children to listen to the melody and tap along with it. (S1,S4)
 10. Then play a game the class would enjoy. (S1, S4)

Students should come away feeling good about themselves and music, feeling like they can and have succeeded, and excited about music and learning. The teacher should feel excited about the music and what the children are learning and a sense of accomplishment.